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# THE BRYOLOGIST

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VOL. XXII

MAY, 1919

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No. 3

## COLLECTING IN OKLAHOMA

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Unlike Arkansas, Oklahoma seemed bare of mosses. I had been in Ada a week before I saw any and then it was not in Ada, but in the neighboring town of Fiances that I found a rocky knoll in the woods rich in different species of moss. After that I found many such places and came to the conclusion that Oklahoma furnished fully as good hunting as Arkansas.

*Grimmia leucophea* and *Ptychomitrium incurvum* were often growing on the same rocks. The *Grimmia* with its hoary tips was a perfect match for the gray rocks and at a little distance was almost indistinguishable. I shall never forget riding through the granite country between Tishomingo and Ravia where the rocks were almost entirely covered with it. The slanting rays of the late afternoon sun turned it to silver and we rode past miles of shining silver rocks and ledges.

The *Polytrichum juniperinum* I would never have recognized at first sight, it was such a short, thick growth. *Tortella tortuosa* was flourishing on a dry, barren hillside in big patches, but separated into individual plants as soon as gathered. *Thelia Lescurii* was everywhere underfoot on a sandy hill-top.

The most interesting moss I found was *Amblystegium irriguum* var. *spinifolium*. This was, and without doubt still is, growing in the Ada water-supply near Byrd's Mill. The pool is fed by bubbling springs and is enclosed by a stone wall. Evidently there is keen competition for the possession of said pool between Ada and the *Amblystegium*, for there are piles of dry moss all around the outside and the implement is there handy for raking it out; but, in spite of the quantities taken out, there is still a luxuriant growth all over the rocky bottom, and I must say that it is a great addition to the looks of the pool. On examining the moss that had been thrown out, I found that where it was not so old and dry as to be faded, the lower portion of the plants was of a decided orange color in marked contrast to the dark green of the upper. It grew six to eight inches tall and was exceedingly brittle when dry. Outside the walls, where a growth of it occurred on rocks and logs not submerged, it seemed to be the type form rather than the variety and fruited freely.

In my lists for Oklahoma and Arkansas, not a *Stereodon* appears and only one *Polytrichum*. That is probably my fault and not the fault of the localities visited, but certainly neither genus is as common as in the northeastern states, and we, who do most of our collecting in New England, miss them both as only old and constant friends can be missed.

A little transgression before my list: the red-bud or Judas tree made the thickets along the river beds a blaze of color, and the flowering dogwoods were scattered through the woods in all their beauty. Of the birds, three were of special interest: the tufted titmouse, the road-runner or chaparral-bird, and the scissor-tailed fly catcher, the latter being exquisitely colored and the most graceful bird imaginable. The geology of the region is at once the despair and the delight of its students. There is a great deal of limestone which ought to mean more limestone mosses than I collected.

Following is the list:

*Dicranella varia* Schimp.  
*Dicranella heteromalla* (L.) Schimp.  
*Dicranum scoparium* (L.) Hedw.  
*Dicranum pallidum* B. & S.  
*Leucobryum glaucum* (L.) Schimp.  
*Fissidens subbasilaris* Hedw.  
*Weissia viridula* (L.) Hedw.  
*Tortella tortuosa* (L.) Limpr.  
*Didymodon tophaceus* (Brid.) Jur.  
*Barbula unguiculata* (Huds.) Hedw.  
*Desmatodon arenaceus* S. & L.  
*Ptychomitrium incurvum* (Schwaegr.) Sulliv.  
*Grimmia apocarpa* (L.) Hedw.  
*Grimmia leucophea* Grev.  
*Philonotis marchica* (Willd.) Brid.  
*Catharinaea angustata* Brid.  
*Catharinaea xanthopelma* Muell.  
*Polytrichum juniperinum* Willd.  
*Hedwigia albicans* (Web.) Lindb.  
*Leucodon julaceus* (Hedw.) Sulliv.  
*Pylaisia Schimperi* R. & C.  
*Thelia Lescurii* Sulliv.  
*Anomodon minor* (P. Beauv.) Fuern.  
*Amblystegium irriguum* var. *spinifolium* Schimp.  
*Amblystegium irriguum* (Wils.) B. & S.  
*Amblystegium riparium* B. & S.  
*Campylium chrysophyllum* (Brid.) Bryhn.

WORCESTER, MASS.